

The ACS Newsletter

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2017 EDITION

U. S. EMBASSY, DHAKA

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meet the new Consul General	1
Contact Info. for Consular Section	1
Warden Tea & Warden Training	2
Yogurt Breakfast	2
Personal Security	3
Emergency Kit	3
ACS services	4
Embassy Contact Information	4
Embassy Closures	4

Meet the new Consul General

Hello everyone and happy summer! I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the new Consul General, but I've been working here in Dhaka's Consular Section for 3+ years already. I was the former Deputy Consul General and moved into the position of Consul General in April 2017.

Bangladesh is such a great place to work and live, albeit the security situation. As you may all be aware, there is a Travel Warning issued by the Department of State for Bangladesh. The Embassy has been in unaccompanied status since January 2017, which means that only US employees and adult working family members are present in the Embassy.

This brings me to being prepared and ready with your "GO Bag." What's a "GO Bag?" Well, it's a bag or document holder that contains all original civil documents (birth, marriage, death, divorce, etc.), passports, important medical papers, current prescriptions, bank and credit card info and anything else that you must take with you in case you have to leave your home in an emergency-like situation. I have one that I keep in my nightstand. If there ever comes a time that we have to depart quickly, either my husband or I will grab it and get out.

My team and I are here to serve the American public – you! We recently launched two drop-box programs – the adult US passport re-

newal program and the Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) application program. We have received great feedback so far, thank you. We are always looking for ways to enhance customer service so if you have ideas you want to share, please do. We want to hear from you.

Over the next year, we will launch other innovations such as virtual Town Hall Meetings with the Ambassador and FB chats with Americans. We'll keep you posted on the roll-out. Wishing everyone a very safe and fun summer!



Sharon A. Weber

Contact Information for Consular Section - Dhaka

For ACS inquiries only
Phone: (880) (2) 5566-2000 (For after office-hours emergency, When you hear the recorded message please press "3", and you will be connected to the duty officer.

Email:
DhakaACS@state.gov

American Citizens with Visa Inquiries
Within Bangladesh:
09610202040 (hours: Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; ex-

cluding holidays)
Within the United States: 703-988-3466
(hours: Sunday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., EST)

- ◆ Enroll with the Embassy to receive alert emails by visiting <https://step.state.gov/step>
- ◆ Enroll with the Embassy to receive alert SMS by visiting <https://usembassy.sslwireless.com/>

Warden Tea and Warden Training

Warden Tea—2017



Warden Training—2017

The American Citizen Services section (ACS), along with U.S. Ambassador Marcia Bernicat, invited Consular Wardens to Consul General Sharon Weber's residence for the Annual Wardens Tea on May 2, 2017. The goal of the event was to thank our Wardens for their service to the U.S. Embassy. Wardens were updated on their responsibilities and there was a discussion of the current security environment in Bangladesh.

On May 30, 2017, ACS hosted a total of 13 Wardens from various divisions throughout Bangladesh to train on how to prepare for potential crises. In the first session, Wardens learned about earthquake, flood, and cyclone preparation. The second course focused on current security threats in Bangladesh, how to react to a crisis, and methods to stay safe. The last session involved an overview of general first aid and then practical training on trauma medical proce-

dures. Wardens play a critical role as a source of information for the Embassy regarding safety and other community issues affecting U.S. citizens in their areas. Wardens act as the eyes and ears for the American Citizen Services unit, and ACS hopes to provide future trainings to better prepare for potential emergencies.

A big 'Thank You' to our wonderful Consular Wardens!

Make-Ahead Fruit & Yogurt Breakfast



Make-Ahead Fruit & Yogurt Breakfast Parfaits are easy to assemble and make-ahead, so they're ideal for a grab-and-go healthy breakfast.

Creamy Greek yogurt is mixed with heart-healthy old fashioned oats, chia seeds, and a splash of milk, then layered with frozen fruit and berries in a jar for a make-ahead, grab-and-go breakfast. Make one, two, or 10 at a time – they keep for several days in the refrigerator!

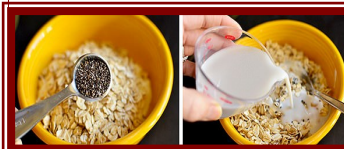
The combo of yogurt and oats mixed together then left to sit

overnight in the refrigerator is so dreamy. The oats become nice and chewy, then the frozen berries melt to create a sweet berry sauce that permeates every bite. They are fantastic!

Step - 1



Step - 2



Step - 3



Step - 4



Collected from : <http://www.hellowonderful.co/>

Personal Security - At Home, On the Street, While Traveling

Residential Security

Residential security is a critical component of any personal security program. The following guidelines should be used in reviewing your residential security.

- All entrances, including service doors and gates, should have quality locks--preferably a deadbolt. Check your:
 - Front Door
 - Rear Door
 - Garage Door(s)
 - Service Door(s)
 - Patio Door
 - Sliding Glass Door
 - Gate
 - Swimming Pool Gate
 - Guest House Door(s).
- Don't leave keys "hidden" outside the home. Leave an extra key with a trusted neighbor or colleague.
- Keep doors locked even when you or family members are at home.
- Have window locks installed on all windows. Use them.
- Lock louvered windows--especially on the ground floor.
- Have locks installed on your fuse

boxes and external power sources.

- If you have window grilles and bars, review fire safety. Don't block bedroom windows with permanent grilles if the windows may be used for emergency egress.
- If you have burglar or intrusion alarms, check and use them.
- Keep at least one fire extinguisher on each floor, and be sure to keep one in the kitchen. Show family members and household help how to use them.
- Periodically check smoke detectors and replace batteries when necessary.
- Keep flashlights in several areas in the house. Check the batteries often, especially if you have children in your home. (They love to play with flashlights!)
- A family dog can be a deterrent to criminals. But remember, even the best watch-dog can be controlled by food or poison. Do not install separate "doggy doors" or entrances. They also can admit small intruders.
- Choose a location that offers the most security. The less remote, the

safer your home will be, particularly in a neighborhood close to police and fire protection.

- Know your neighbors. Develop a rapport with them and offer to keep an eye on each other's homes, especially during trips.
- If you observe any unusual activity, report it immediately to your RSO.
- Establish safe family living patterns. If you understand the importance of your contribution to the family's overall security, the entire household will be safer.
- While at home, you and your family should rehearse safety drills and be aware of procedures to escape danger and get help.
- Educate family members and domestic help in the proper way to answer the telephone at home.
- Vary daily routines; avoid predictable patterns.
- Know where all family members are at all times.
- Use these same guidelines while on leave or in travel status.

Keep an eye in the next newsletter for the rest of the article.....



Emergency Preparedness Supply Kit

All regular American Citizen Services are by appointment **only**. Walk-in hours are not available. To schedule an appointment online please visit the Embassy website at <https://bd.usembassy.gov/>



U. S. EMBASSY, DHAKA

American Citizen Services

Madani Avenue, Baridhara
Dhaka – 1212

Phone: 88 2 5566-2000

(Hours of Operation: Sun, Mon, Wed, Thu, from
8:00 am - 4.00 pm)

E-mail: DhakaACS@state.gov

Website: <https://bd.usembassy.gov/>

ACS Services include:

- PASSPORT RENEWAL
- CONSULAR REPORTS OF BIRTH ABROAD
- CONSULAR REPORTS OF DEATH ABROAD
- NOTARIAL SERVICES
- ABSENTEE VOTING AND VOTER INFORMATION
- SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER APPLICATION
- MEDICAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION
- FEDERAL BENEFITS APPLICATION
- TREASURY CHECKS DISTRIBUTION
- EMERGENCY MONEY TRANSFER FACILITATION

Diplomacy in Action

Stay Connected



Upcoming Embassy Closures

JULY 2017

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 (Independence day)	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST 2017

Su	Mon	Tu	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 (Jonmashtomi)	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 (Eid-ul-Azha)		

Note: September has one holiday on the 3rd (Sunday) as 'Labor day'.